**WESTERN NEW YORK ARCHIVISTS**

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2019, MEETING**

**WNYLRC, BUFFALO, NY**

**PRESENT:** S. Pat Burkard, Kathleen Delaney, Dan DiLandro, Dennis Frank, Jessica Anderson, Jessica Johnson, S. Nancy Kaczmarek, Bill Park (call in), S. Mary Serbacki, Ellen Winger, Heidi Ziemer, S. Claire

**WELCOME:** Heidi welcomed everyone to the Western New York Library Resources Council facility.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BUSINESS:**

* Heidi shared some information about a recent program on preserving endangered media as well as some upcoming offerings which might be of interest to our group members: October 25—Copyright Boot Camp for Librarians; a new service—Archival Assistance Program which is now available to WNYLRC members. She introduced Jessica Johnson the new archival projects director for WNYLRC who will be handling the new assistance program. Need help? Ask a professional! [www.wnylrc.org](http://www.wnylrc.org).
* There are “how to” videos available on the WNYLRC YouTube channels; from homepage.
* Nancy shared that she had received her certification from the Academy of Certified Archivists (ACA). There was a brief discussion on the accreditation process and examination questions. Congratulations, Nancy!!!
* Kathleen spoke about the upcoming “Banned Book Week” activities at Canisius College.
* Dennis noted that there will be a new position opening up in the St. Bonaventure University Library. The position will include some archival duties.
* Meeting locations and topics for our next gatherings were determined:
	+ January 9, 2020—9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon; Canisius College; topic = Planning for special events and projects (anniversaries, videos, documentaries)
	+ May 14, 2020—1:00-3:30 p.m.; Allegany; topic = sharing the results of planning (viewing of documentaries, etc. made using our collections).

**DISCUSSION:** There was some discussion regarding the future of Western New York Archivists. It was noted that attendance at recent meetings has been declining; it is often difficult for people to come. Do we still think there is value in the organization? In meeting regularly? Several members said that they find the meetings helpful; value in the sharing and discussion of various archival topics. Our membership has changed over time. Perhaps we could attempt to widen our membership; “recruit.” There are many groups in our area that have records. How can we connect with them? Heidi suggested that WNYLRC could have a link to the WNYA website. This would publicize our meetings. Most agreed that they find the networking valuable and want the group to continue.

**MEETING TOPIC:** There was some open conversation centering on members’ recent projects.

* Dennis has recently processed the collection of a WWII priest. He is currently working on new Civil War Roundtable materials which will be added to the Civil War collection. He is working again on game development with the public history class and has spent time assisting at the Jackson Center in Jamestown.
* Jessica Anderson is looking at a project to digitize oral histories.
* Nancy is trying to track down a woman who attended D’Youville College in 1915. There is no record at the school. She has also been researching using the NY State Newspaper Project resources.
* Dan spoke about the recent Frank Boles article (SAA August 2019 preprint: *To Everything There Is a Season* Frank J. Boles). In brief, the author posits the idea that archives and the archival mandate to preserve have, perhaps, become over weighted to social justice and it may be necessary to pull back a bit.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Canisius College

Thursday January 9, 2020

9:30 a.m.—noon

**REMINDER: CHECK OUT THE WNYA WEBSITE--**www.archives.sbu.edu/wnya